

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-30 (cancelled)

31. (currently amended) An ostomy device for sealing a stoma, said device comprising means, situated externally to the body, for covering the stoma, ~~and~~ means for securing said stoma covering means over the stoma and pressurizable means situated over said stoma covering means to press said stoma covering means against the stoma to seal the stoma.

32. (previously presented) The device of Claim 31 wherein said stoma covering means has an edge and wherein said securing means comprises an adhesive layer on said edge.

33. (currently amended) The device of Claim 31 wherein said securing means comprises a member situated over and sealed to said stoma covering means, said member comprising said pressurizable means ~~so as to define a recess that can be pressurized to press said stoma covering means against the stoma.~~

34. (currently amended) The device of Claim 33 wherein said pressurizable means comprises a recess and further comprising means for pressurizing said recess.

35. (currently amended) An ostomy device for sealing a stoma, said device comprising recess defining means; means for securing said recess defining means to the body proximate the stoma; and stoma covering means, situated externally to the body, over the stoma, within said recess defining means, said recess defining means defining, with said stoma covering means, a recess, said recess being situated over

said stoma covering means and pressurizable to press said stoma covering means against the stoma.

36. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said stoma covering means comprises a flexible membrane.

37. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said stoma covering means has an edge and wherein said edge is fixed to the interior of said recess defining means.

38. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising means for pressurizing said recess.

39. (previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said pressurizing means comprises means in said recess defining means for permitting entrance of fluid into said recess.

40. (previously presented) The device of Claim 39 wherein said fluid entrance permitting means comprises an inlet port and a one-way valve associated with said inlet port.

41. (previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said pressurizing means comprises pump means integral with said recess defining means.

42. (previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said pressurizing means comprises flexible means affixed to said recess defining means, said flexible means defining a variable volume chamber the volume of which can be reduced by the application of pressure on said flexible means and an entrance port connecting said chamber and said recess.

43. (previously presented) The device of Claim 42 further comprising a one-way valve associated with said entrance port.

44. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising means for limiting the pressure in said recess.

45. (previously presented) The device of Claim 44 wherein said pressure limiting means comprises a pressure relief valve.

46. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 for use in combination with an external pressurization device.

47. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising venting means in said recess defining means.

48. (previously presented) The device of Claim 47 wherein said venting means comprises an outlet port and
gas filtration means associated with said outlet port.

49. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said recess defining means and said stoma covering means define a second recess therebetween and further comprising gas filtration means operably connected to said second recess.

50. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said securing means comprises means for engaging said recess defining means and means for adhering said engaging means to the tissue surrounding the stoma.

51. (currently amended) The device of Claim ~~50~~ wherein said engaging means comprises means for removeably engaging said recess defining means.

52. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 for use in combination with waste collection means.

53. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means comprises
a collection pouch.

54. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means has an end connected to said securing means.

55. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means is collapsible.

56. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means has a concertina-like configuration.

57. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means comprises a collection pouch, said pouch comprising a flexible wall having first and second ends fixed between said recess defining means and said securing means, respectively.

58. (previously presented) The device of Claim 57 wherein said collection pouch is elongated.